

Notice of Allowability

Applicant(s)

10/062,363

Examiner

St. John Courtenay III

Applicant(s)

BROUSSARD ET AL.

Art Unit

2126

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to application filed Jan. 31, 2002.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-24.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 31 January 2002 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☐ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* Certified copies not received: _____.


Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☐ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____
7. ☐ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____


ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
PRIMARY EXAMINER

Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance

During examination, the claims must be interpreted as broadly as their terms reasonably allow. The pending claims must be "given the broadest reasonable interpretation consistent with the specification." In re Prater, 415 F.2d 1393, 1404-05, 162 USPQ 541, 550-51 (CCPA 1969).

The broadest reasonable interpretation of the claims must also be consistent with the interpretation that those skilled in the art would reach. In re Cortright, 165 F.3d 1353, 1359, 49 USPQ2d 1464, 1468 (Fed. Cir. 1999).

The words of the claim must be given their plain meaning unless applicant has provided a clear definition in the specification. In re Zletz, 893 F.2d 319, 321, 13 USPQ2d 1320, 1322 (Fed. Cir. 1989).

In the instant application, the claimed "Deployment descriptor" has been considered by the Examiner as a definition. A clear definition for the claim element "Deployment descriptor" is provided on page 7 of the instant specification:

"Deployment descriptor" refers to an XML based definition tile that describes how a software package will be deployed or put into service on a server. Deployment descriptors are well defined data structures known and required by server execution environments, such as the execution environments on web servers and Telecom application servers.

In the instant application, the claimed "Signature" has been considered by the Examiner as a definition. A clear definition for the claim element "Signature" is provided on page 11 of the instant specification:

"Signature" refers to a pattern of types, such as return times, variable types, or argument types, that characterizes a Java object such as a member variable or a member method. For example, the general form of a signature for a member method is "argument-types)return-type," and the general form of a member variable signature is "member variable type." That is, for example, a member method declared as "public static void main(String args[])" has the signature "([Ljava/lang/String;)Void," where the "[" is a Java convention indicating that the argument type is an array. Similarly, for example, a string variable declared as "String Mystring" has the signature "Ljava/lang/String;".

In the instant application, the claimed "Wizard" has been considered by the Examiner as a definition. A clear definition for the claim element "Wizard" is provided on page 12 of the instant specification:

A "wizard" is a utility program that helps perform a particular task within an application. For example, a "letter wizard" within a word processing application would lead a user through the steps of producing different types of correspondence. "Software development wizards," utilities for performing particular tasks in software development applications, are generally part of typical embodiments of the present invention. Software development applications include, for example, so-called Integrated Development Environments or "IDEs."

When the claims are properly constructed by applying the above definitions, the claims are deemed allowable for at least the following reasons:

As per independent claim 1:

The prior art of record does not teach, nor fairly suggest, the steps of determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, and retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each the Java object, and detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions, as claimed.

As per independent claim 7:

The prior art of record does not teach, nor fairly suggest, the steps of providing a deployment descriptor for the Java application, wherein the deployment descriptor includes Java object deployment descriptions for Java objects to be administered by the software development wizard, and determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each listed Java object, and retrieving from the deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each listed Java object, and detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions, as claimed.

As per independent claim 13:

The prior art of record does not teach, nor fairly suggest, means for determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, from a Java software application comprising Java application code, to be administered by a software development wizard, and means for retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each the Java object, and means for detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and

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the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions, operatively coupled as claimed.

As per independent claim 19:

The prior art of record does not teach, nor fairly suggest, means for determining, through Java reflection API calls, a current software signature for each Java object, and means for retrieving from a deployment descriptor a Java object deployment description for each the Java object and means for detecting changes in the Java application code, wherein detecting changes includes contrasting the current software signatures and the retrieved Java object deployment descriptions, operatively coupled as claimed.

Any comments considered necessary by Applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the Issue Fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the Issue Fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."


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How to Contact the Examiner:

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to St. John Courtenay III, whose telephone number is 571-272-3761. A voice mail service is also available at this number. The Examiner can normally be reached on Monday - Friday, 8:00 AM - 4:30 PM.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, An Meng-AI who can be reached on 571-272-3756. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

All responses sent by U.S. Mail should be mailed to:

Commissioner for Patents
PO Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Patent Customers advised to FAX communications to the USPTO

<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/dapp/opla/preognotice/faxnotice.pdf>

Effective Oct. 15, 2003, ALL patent application correspondence transmitted by FAX must be directed to the new PTO central FAX number:

NEW PTO CENTRAL FAX NUMBER:

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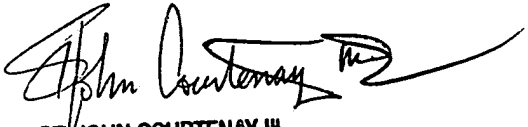
703-872-9306

- Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the **TC 2100 Group receptionist: (703) 305-3900.**

Please direct inquiries regarding fees, paper matching, and other issues not involving the Examiner to:

Technical Center 2100 CUSTOMER SERVICE: 703 306-5631

The Manual of Patent Examining Procedure (MPEP) is available online at:
<http://www.uspto.gov/web/offices/pac/mpep/index.html>



ST. JOHN COURTENAY III
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